

FOR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

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PROGRAM

JOE DOLAN SHOW

STATION

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CIA QUESTIONED IN RAMPARTS

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JOE DOLAN: Mr. Turner, because most of us, including myself, have not had an opportunity of reading the latest issue of Ramparts, it's just hitting the stands, would you give us please the gist of your article in Ramparts concerning District Attorney Jim Garrison's allegations?

BILL TURNER: I started off with a little profile of Jim Garrison because I don't believe that most people understand the man, and I can't say that I blame them. There has really been no portrait that is accurate, released by the press. I have also gone into Jim's case rather lengthily, about a fifteen thousand word article. But I talk about the implication of David Serry (?) and about Oswald, laying out the evidence that he was a CIA operator or a withing (?) agent and his activities in New Orleans during the summer of 1963 with the anti-Castro Cuban group, which oddly enough was headquartered at 544 Camp Street, which the Warren Report said they could find no link of Oswald to that address even though he had given out hand bills with that address stamped on it.

So then I go in a little bit about Clay Shaw and the fact that he also appears to have been a CIA agent, and I go into how Oswald was set up as a patsy by his free Cuba comrades. And I also go into a strange case of a Richard Niguel(?), who was a highly decorated infantry captain in the Korean War and later became a CIA agent and some of his allegations are, I think, rather startling.

(DOLAN ASKED TURNER IF GARRISON HAS A BELIEVEABLE CASE. TURNER AFFIRMS HIS CASE. THEY ALSO TALK ABOUT A MAFIA CONTRACT ON GARRISON'S LIFE.)

DOLAN: Who would have tried to get the Mafia into such a contract, do you suppose?

TURNER: Well, presuming that it was an outside contract, in other words, it is certainly no internal affair of the Mafia, Garrison has been about as tough on organized crime as any D.A. in the country, but I don't think that they would try to get rid of him just for that.

DOLAN: No, I doubt it. That would bring too much heat to bear upon them.

TURNER: Yes, I don't know, it may be what one of the intelligence agencies would call "executive action." When you can't arrive at a political solution, well, I'm afraid that some of our, the CIA, in particular, use other means, and this could be it, a way of cutting it off from their own activities.

DOLAN: Good heavens, Mr. Turner.

TURNER: Well, it sounds awfully startling for a democracy but I'm afraid that the CIA has gotten a little out of hand.

DOLAN: Mr. Turner, this is a little shocking.

(DOLAN AND TURNER TALKED ABOUT A SUPPOSED TELEGRAM THAT WAS SENT BY OSWALD TO WARN OF KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION.)

DOLAN: Do you maintain, or do you feel that Oswald was working for the CIA?

TURNER: Yes, there is just such a preponderance of circumstantial evidence to that effect. In other words, they do not issue their operatives -- no, Oswald was not a direct employee in terms of being screened and going through the employee training at Langley, Virginia and this kind of thing. But he was one of the many people that they did give him some type of intelligence training.

DOLAN: Well, in that case, then, he actually was working for the United States government.

TURNER: That's right.

DOLAN: And you believe again that this charge -- you say that the circumstantial evidence is overwhelming?

TURNER: Well, I have laid it out and you can draw your own conclusion. I believe it is. There is just too much there. Again, he was not a direct employee of the U.S. government and unfortunately, in this intelligence type of work, it is very difficult to control agents once you have set them up because of the very nature of the work being secretive and working through cut-offs and all.

(DOLAN AND TURNER TALK ABOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONCEALING SOME EVIDENCE.)

DOLAN: One last question, please. Do you think, is there any suspicion that the evidence may be mutilated or distorted or suppressed or destroyed before it is finally opened up and revealed to the public?

TURNER: Well, do you mean in the national archive in Washington?

DOLAN: Yes.

TURNER: Well, we have already seen, for example, Commission exhibit five, Joe, which is an automobile parked in General Walker's driveway and here was, apparently, a perfectly good photograph and it gets up to Washington and all of a sudden, right where the license number is, where you could identify whose car it is, somebody has taken what looks like a pencil and punched a hole right in it.

DOLAN: Yes, I saw that picture.

TURNER: And then the report, a State Department attendum, which is really a CIA report on Oswald's activities, a CIA report mind you, somehow or other caught fire in a thermofax machine the day after the assassination. So, yes, very definitely, even if this evidence does get out whether it has been altered or changed somehow doctored, there is a distinct possibility.

(DOLAN AND TURNER TALK ABOUT HOW THERE ARE NO RECORDS OF OSWALD DURING HIS INTERROGATION.)